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B¹ 13 This Application claims the benefit of the priority of Provisional Applications Serial #
14 60/039,041 filed February 24, 1997 and Serial # 60/064,421, filed October 30, 1997 and
15 Application Serial # 09/023,968, filed February 13, 1998, now U.S. Pat. #6,047,274, issued April
16 4, 2000, and is a Continuation of co-pending Application Ser. #09/542,451, filed April 4, 2000.

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19 Please add the following new Claims 155 - 158.

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B² 21 155. A method for creating an automated bidding process among energy Providers and end
22 users in which a moderating computer collects economic incentive data from each
23 Provider of a plurality of energy Providers, processes the economic incentive data and
24 selects at least two Providers of the plurality of energy Providers to provide energy to at
25 least one end user, based on an economic choice, wherein the method comprises:
26 a. receiving in the moderating computer, economic incentive data specifying the
27 economic incentive each Provider will place on a unit of energy provided to the at
28 least one end user, processing the economic incentive data to produce processed
29 economic incentive data, and storing the economic incentive data and the processed
30 economic incentive data in a data base of the moderating computer as first end-user
31 set data;
32 b. in the moderating computer, transmitting at least a portion of the first end-user set
33 data to at least a portion of the plurality of energy Providers; and

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cont

34 c. in the moderating computer, processing the first end-user set data and selecting at
35 least two Providers of the plurality of energy Providers to provide energy to the at
36 least one end user, with each of the at least two Providers to supply a portion of the
37 energy to be used by the at least one end user at at least one end-user facility during at
38 least a portion of a specific future time interval.
39

1 156. A method for creating an automated bidding process among energy Providers and end
2 users in which a moderating computer collects economic incentive data from each
3 Provider of a plurality of energy Providers, processes the economic incentive data and
4 distributes processed data to a first control computer associated with at least one end user,
5 thereby enabling the first control computer to select at least two Providers of the plurality
6 of energy Providers to provide energy to the at least one end user, based on an economic
7 choice, wherein the method comprises:

8 a. receiving in the moderating computer, economic incentive data specifying the
9 economic incentive each Provider will place on a unit of energy provided to the at least
10 one end user, processing the economic incentive data to produce processed economic
11 incentive data, and storing the economic incentive data and the processed economic
12 incentive data in a data base of the moderating computer as first control computer data;

13 b. in the moderating computer, transmitting at least a portion of the first control
14 computer data to the first control computer associated with the at least one end user;

15 c. in the moderating computer, transmitting at least a portion of the first control
16 computer data to at least a portion of the plurality of energy Providers; and

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cont

17 d. in the first control computer, receiving the first control computer data, processing the
18 first control computer data and selecting at least two Providers of the plurality of energy
19 Providers to provide energy to the at least one end user, with each of the at least two
20 Providers to supply a portion of the energy to be used by the at least one end user at at
21 least one end-user facility during at least a portion of a specific future time interval.
22

- 1 157. An energy bidding moderator for enabling the selection of at least two Providers of a
2 plurality of energy Providers for the provision of energy to at least one end user, in
3 accordance with economic incentives generated by the Providers, comprising:
4 a. a computer with a processor and a memory;
5 b. means for receiving economic incentive data from the plurality of energy Providers
6 and storing the economic incentive data in the memory;
7 c. means for processing the economic incentive data received from the plurality of
8 energy Providers to produce processed economic incentive data, storing the economic
9 incentive data and the processed economic incentive data in the memory as first end-
10 user set data, and generating provider selection data; and
11 d. means for transmitting at least a portion of the first end-user set data to at least a
12 portion of the plurality of energy Providers.
13

- 1 158. A method for conducting an automated bidding process among a plurality of energy
2 Providers and end users, comprising:
3 a. collecting economic incentive data from a plurality of energy Providers;
4 b. prioritizing the economic incentive data that apply to at least one end user;